

Testimony in Opposition of Bill #5268, sponsored by Rep Gail Hamm, on behalf of the Princess Pocotopaug Taxing District.

The Amston lake Tax District is opposed to the change in legislation that would include a flat fee structure. If an organization wants to have a flat fee structure, then they should become an Association.

The Amston Lake Tax District has over 740 properties owners. The average individual does not understand the ramifications of trying to apply a flat fee structure. The existing legislation allows a tax district to leverage property values that are assessed by the towns (in Amston Lake's case, Hebron, Lebanon and Colchester).

If our residents voted to use a flat fee structure, how would the Amston Lake Board of Directors determine what to charge? Would a water front house and property be charged the same as a vacant back lot far away for the lake?

Under the existing regulations the towns (who have professional assessments performed) give tax district's the guidance required to make logical decisions.

Please do not change the existing legislation.

Sincerely,

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